



# Egg Free Test

## LATERAL FLOW TEST KIT

for the detection of whole egg powder in food, cip solutions and working surfaces

ProGnosis Biotech S.A. is ISO 9001:2015 certified by TÜV Hellas (TÜV NORD).

**Use only the current version of Product Data Sheet enclosed with the kit.**

**Egg Free test, E1510/E1530**, is a lateral flow test that detects whole egg powder in food products, cip solutions and working surfaces. The lateral flow kit contains all reagents required for the immunoassay method.

**Matrices:**
Bakery products, beverages, bread, cake mix, corn, corn flour, chocolate, cookies, ice cream, mayonnaise, pasta, rice, rice flour, salad dressing, sauces, sausage, sweets, wheat, wheat flour and wine

- Sample preparation: extraction/swab sampling
- Test time (incubation time after samples and reagents preparation): 5 min
- Calibration Range: 4-128ppm
- Shelf life: 12 months
- Storage: 4-30$^{o}$C

## Method characteristics

- The LOD of the method is 2.0 ppm (2.0mg/kg) whole egg powder or 0.96ppm whole egg protein or 0.526ppm egg white protein in food samples and CIP solutions.
- The LOQ of the method is 4.0 ppm (4.0mg/kg) whole egg powder or 1.92ppm whole egg protein or 1.052ppm egg white protein in food samples and CIP solutions.
- Limit of detection (LOD): 0.16μg/100cm$^2$ on working surfaces. LOD was calculated based on our reference materials.
- No cross-reactivity was observed between egg white and chicken meat.
- The cross-reaction of the anti-egg antibody with ovomucoid, ovalbumin and conalbumin is 100%, 9% and <0.01% respectively.

## 1. Description

**Egg Free test** is a Lateral Flow test for the detection of whole egg powder in food products, specially for those labeled as egg-free, CIP solutions and working surfaces.

## 2. General Information

Egg allergy is the second most common food allergy in infants and young children. Most of the allergenic egg proteins are found in egg white. Ovalbumin (OVA) is the most abundant protein in hen's egg white, however ovomucoid (OVM) has been shown to be the dominant allergen in egg. When adults or children suffering from egg allergy consume egg proteins, an adverse reaction of immunological nature is induced, leading to the production of Immunoglobulins E (IgE), which travel to cells and cause an allergic reaction. Egg allergy symptoms usually occur a few minutes to a few hours after eating eggs or foods containing eggs, and include skin rashes, hives, nasal congestion, and vomiting or other digestive problems. Sometimes anaphylactic shock might occur. For this reason, it is of high importance to detect the presence of egg in food products labeled as egg-free.

## 3. Principle of the method

The presence of egg in a sample is determined by the immunological detection of egg ovomucoid. Antibodies specific to egg ovomucoid are coated on the test line region (Test line) of the nitrocellulose membrane. During testing, antigens in the specimen react with the antibodies that are coated onto gold nanoparticles. The mixture migrates up the membrane to react with the antibodies immobilized on the membrane and generate a colored line in the test region T. The presence of the colored Test line indicates a positive result. In case of samples with a very high allergen concentration, the Test line fades or may not appear, giving us reduced or false negative result (hook effect phenomenon). For this purpose, a second line has been created (Hook line), whose intensity decreases as the amount of antigen increases and at very high concentrations it disappears either together with the Test line or before it. To serve as a procedural control, a colored line will always appear in the control region (Control line) if the test has been performed properly.

## 4. Reagents Provided

| Reagents (Store at 4-30ºC) | E1510 | E1530 |
|---|---|---|
| Reaction device | 10pcs | 30pcs |
| Prefilled sample tube with white cap | 10pcs | 30pcs |
| Disposable pipettes | 10pcs | 30pcs |
| Prefilled Extraction tube with dropper tip | 10pcs | 30pcs |
| Sterile swab | 10pcs | 30pcs |
| Instruction manual | 1 | 1 |

## 5. Materials required but not provided

- A grinder sufficient to render sample to particle size of fine instant coffee
- Balance with 0 - 50 g measuring capability
- Microcentrifuge and centrifugal vials
- Vortex mixer and/or Shaker
- S-Flow Reader or 3PRMini along with matching software (for quantitative detection)

## 6. Storage Instructions

Store kit reagents between 4 and 30°C (39.2 - 86°F). Do not freeze any components provided. Expiry of the kit and reagents is stated on the labels respectively and no quality guarantee is accepted after the expiration date. The expiry of the kit components can only be guaranteed if the components are stored properly as well as if the reagent is not contaminated by the first handling, in case of repeated use of one component. Do not interchange individual reagents between kits of different lot numbers.

## 7. Safety and Precautions for use

- Use gloves and disinfect the workbench before starting.
- All reagents should be warmed in room temperature before use and covered when not in use. Use a clean disposable pipette for each sample, in order to avoid cross-contamination.
- Clean surfaces, glass vials, mincers and other equipment before and after each sample preparation.
- Do not mix and interchange different samples.
- Do not interchange individual reagents between kits of different lot numbers.
- Do not re-use any of the kit components as they are single-use only.
- Do not eat or drink in the area where the samples and the kit are stored and handled.

## 8. Samples Preparation

### 8.1 Solid Samples

1. The sample must be collected according to established sampling techniques. Grind a representative sample (at least 5 g) to the particle size of fine instant coffee (50% passes through a 20 mesh screen).
2. Weigh out a 0.5 g ground portion of the sample, add it into the prefilled sample tube and vortex it for 1min. **The ratio of sample to extraction solvent is 1:10 (w/v).**
3. Two (2) ml of the extract should be centrifuged at high speed for 2 min in reaction caps by using a microcentrifuge. Alternatively, let the sample settle down.
4. Using a disposable pipette, transfer 3 drops from the supernatant to the reaction device and allow test to develop for 5 minutes.

**NOTE 1:** The extracted sample should have a pH value of 6.2 - 7.5. If the pH is less than 6.2 or more than 7.5, the pH should be neutralized using NaOH or HCl.

**NOTE 2:** In case of cloudy, thick samples, that do not allow the mixture to develop, a dilution 1:1 with the extraction buffer is required before transferring 3 drops to the reaction device. In this case, multiply the final egg proteins ppm result x 2.

### 8.2 Liquid Samples and CIP Solutions

1. Use 0.5 mL of the sample, add it into the prefilled sample tube and vortex it for 1min.
2. Using a disposable pipette, transfer 3 drops from the supernatant to the reaction device and allow test to develop for 5 minutes.

**NOTE:**In case your sample is a viscous liquid, you can proceed with the procedure as for solid samples.

### 8.3 Surfaces and swab sampling

1. Mark out a swabbing area of approximately 10 x 10 cm.
2. Moisten a swab by dipping into the extraction tube.
3. Gather the sample with the swab by using a crosshatch technique **(Figure 1.)**. Move the swab horizontally, vertically, diagonally while rotating the tip. Repeat this starting from a different angle each time.
4. After the sample collection, place the swab in the extraction tube, rotate the swab forcefully against the side of the tube for 1min. Best results are obtained when the sample is vigorously extracted in the solution. Remove the swab, squeezing the sides of the tube to extract as much liquid as possible. Shake vigorously for 1min on a vortex.
5. Close the extraction tube with the dropper tip. Add 3 drops in the circular window of the reaction device.

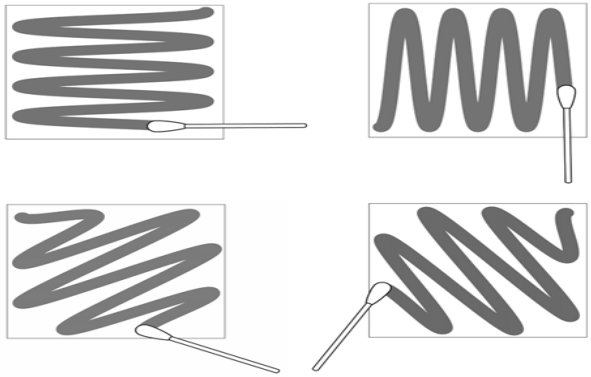


**Figure 1.**

## 9. Interpretation of results

### 9.1 Qualitative assessment

*Note*: For internal procedure purposes three colored lines are present on the result window of the Egg Free Test. The colored lines have no effect on the product's performance since they are washed away during the experiment.*

After 5 minutes, the test device can be visually read and interpreted according to the following figure. Observation after 10 minutes lead to inaccurate conclusions.

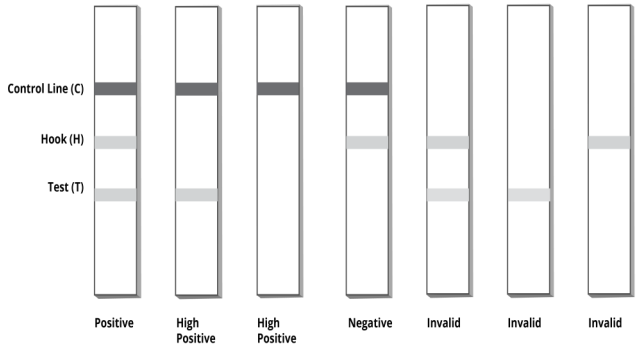
**Negative Result:** Two visible colored bands appear at both Hook line (H) and Control (C) line. It indicates that the concentration of egg is zero or below the detection limit of the test.

**Positive Result:** Three visible colored bands appear at Hook line (H), Control line (C) and Test line (T). Any intensity of Test line indicates the presence of egg into the sample.

**High Positive Result:** No colored band is visible at Hook line (H) and the band at Test line (T) may be **faint** or absent. It indicates that the sample contains egg to very high concentrations.*

**Invalid Results:** No colored band appears at Control line no matter whether it appears at Test line, a Hook line or not.

*In this case you can confirm the high content of your sample by diluting it . Add one drop with the disposable pipette in a new tube and shake vigorously. You are expected to get an image as **Positive Result** or **High Positive Result** with the presence of Test line.To quantify your result multiply by the dilution factor x 200.




**Interpretation of results**

### 9.2 Quantitative procedure

After 5 minutes, place the reaction device inside the plastic holder in order to be scanned. Use the **S-Flow software** to quantify results as soon as possible and no later than 1 minute after the end of analysis. The software will use a Lot specific curve to calculate the results. Refer to the Reader's manual for a detailed description of the quantification procedure.

## 10. Performance Evaluation

### *10.1 Reference Materials*

Several reference materials are being used for the evaluation of each product of ProGnosis Biotech S.A. in the context of Quality Control performed by the Quality Control Department. Please request a validation report, including the results, at info@prognosis-biotech.com.

## 11. Assay Claims

- Samples showing negative results may contain Egg below the limit of detection of the assay. This Lateral Flow kit does not claim that food is safe for consumption based upon a determination of egg content. Matrix effects may also affect the result of the method.
- The recovery/cross reactivity of the method might be affected when analyzing processed food (e.g. heat treatment, dehydration, etc.), because proteins may be altered or fragmented.
- Food samples that have been heat treated may contain denatured proteins which may not be captured by the antibody. Recovery of these matrices might be reduced.
- The protein content and the protein composition may differ among various species of the same matrix. Therefore, different varieties may produce different results.
- LOD and LOQ in CIP solutions refer to the final rinse water. The presence of cleaning agents and detergents may affect the result of the method.
- Test results are expressed as ppm whole egg powder. Whole egg powder contains around 48% protein. To express results as ppm whole egg protein, multiply the result by 0.48 (e.g., 1 ppm whole egg powder x 0.48 = 0.48 ppm whole egg protein). Whole egg protein contains around 60-65% egg white protein. To express results as ppm egg white protein, multiply the result by 0.263 (e.g., 1 ppm whole egg powder x 0.263 = 0.263 ppm egg white protein).

## 12. Method Summary

Total procedure time (after samples and reagents preparation): 5 min.

### 12.1 Food samples and CIP solutions

**Add 0.5gr or 0.5mL of the sample into the Prefilled Sample Tube**

⇩

**Vortex them for 1min. Let the sample settle down.**

⇩

**Centrifuge the sample for 2 min, at high speed in a microcentrifuge.**

⇩

**Transfer 3 drops from the supernatant to the reaction device**

⇩

**Allow test to develop for 5 minutes. Read the results immediately.**

⇩

**Read the results visually or place the device in Reader to be scanned**

### 12.2 Working surfaces

**Mark out a swabbing area of approximately 10 x 10 cm**

⇩

**Moisten a swab by dipping into the extraction tube.**

⇩

**Gather the sample with the swab by using a crosshatch technique**

⇩

**Place the swab in the prefilled tube to extract the sample**

⇩

**Close the extraction tube with the dropper tip. Add 3 drops in the circular window of the reaction device.**

⇩

**Allow test to develop for 5 minutes. Read the results immediately**

⇩

**Read the results visually or place the device in Reader to be scanned**

All immune assays supplied by ProGnosis Biotech S.A., are warranted to meet or exceed our published specification when used under normal conditions in your laboratory. If the product fails during the stated period, a replacement product will be issued.

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VERSION N7

CAT.NUMBER: E1510/E1530
STORAGE: 4-30°C

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